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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Kazuto HIROKAWA et al.

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Serial No. NEW

Attorney Docket No. 2005-1624A

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SUBSTRATE PROCESSING METHOD AND SUBSTRATE PROCESSING **APPARATUS** [Corresponding to PCT/JP2004/005637

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced U.S. patent application please amend the application as follows: